

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ROUND 1

- Q.1. Have there been any or do you anticipate any changes to the funding or program information as it appeared in the online announcement in terms of funding amounts, application procedures, amendments to the announcement, etc?
- A.1. The only change thus far has been a reformatting as reflected in the current posting. No additional changes are anticipated.
- Q.2. Although many entities are eligible, is there a preference or tendency for a certain type of applicant/organization to receive funding?
- A.2. There is no preference or tendency on the type of applicant funded. All types are evaluated according to the Scoring Criteria. See especially Criterion 5.
- Q.3. Is this a new program? If not, when was the last time this program was offered and how much funding was awarded?
- A.3. The PIER Natural Gas Program was established by an order of the California Public Utilities Commission in August 2004. Details and links to relevant reports can be found on the Energy Commission website under http://www.energy.ca.gov/naturalgas_research/index.html. This is the first grant solicitation issued by the California Energy Commission under the PIER Natural Gas Program.
- Q.4. Since matching [is] required for this program, will applicants who provide more than the required amount of funding [be] given extra consideration in the review process?
- A.4. See Item 7 under “Proposal/Project Guidelines” and Scoring Criterion 4. Project Budget.
- Q.5. Are matching funds preferred to be cash or in-kind?
- A.5. See Answer 4.
- Q.6. May we submit to this solicitation if we have submitted to an EISG Solicitation?
- A.6. See discussion under “Eligible Applicants.”

Q.7. If we have funding or receive funding through the EISG program, what if any implications would that have for being granted or accepting funding through this current Advanced Generation CCHP solicitation?

A.7. See Answer 7. A proposal under this solicitation must be for new tasks or a new project.

Q.8. What is the reason for limiting your program to systems greater than 60 kWe?

A.8. The PIER Program is not limited by generator size. This solicitation is limited to a specific size range that encompasses certain market applications. Past solicitations covered other size ranges and technologies. The same will likely be true of future solicitations. See other funding opportunities at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/index.html>

Q.9. Is there a policy at the CEC against supporting CHP in domestic situations? Given the deterioration in utility electric reliability in California plus the punitive rate aspect of tiered pricing, the market for residential CHP could be substantial, especially if the utilities are required to purchase the surplus electrical capacity of the home, which would improve their load factor and reduce transmission losses.

A.9. The Energy Commission CHP policy and recommendations are described in the 2005 Energy Report at http://www.energy.ca.gov/2005_energypolicy/index.html

The policy in support of CHP is not restricted to size.

Q.10. The Grant Solicitation and Application Package is specifically for natural gas fired project. Will landfill gas qualify as a natural gas fuel under the definition of natural gas in the grant application?

A.10. A proposal using landfill gas instead of natural gas would qualify under this solicitation. The proposal must satisfy the purpose of this solicitation. Note that the replacement of natural gas by renewables resources is a Research Subject Area under the PIER Natural Gas Program. Such a proposal could potentially be submitted in response to a solicitation under the Renewables Research Subject Area.

Q.11. Do the budget worksheet pages count towards the 20 page limit?

A.11. Everything is included in the 20 page limit; that includes the 3 budget pages, and short bios describing experience relevant to the proposed project.

- Q.12. Are you interested in seeing Curriculum Vitaes (CVs) or complete resumes?
- A.12. Please do not include complete CVs. Instead describe the Qualifications of the Project Manager and Project Team Members and address the evaluation factors listed under Scoring Criterion 4.
- Q.13. The Sample Budget and Instructions link takes the user to a notice that “This Page May Have Moved”.
- A.13. The link has been fixed. Please note, however, that the Sample Budget and Instructions document is informational only and is NOT a required document as part of your application package. This information will only be required after projects have been selected for funding.

Be sure to download the Task Budget Form and follow the Instructions. This IS a required part of your application package.